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inflammability, contagiousness of ideas, Tarde's law, the Americanization of Porto Ricans, late marriages, child emancipation, aristocracies, power-holders, pace-setters, dollarocracy, barbarizing influences of the smart set, high potential of the city, spread of ideas of equality, custom, historic continuity, Western spirit, etiquette or sway of custom in ancestor worship, social isolation, sedentary life, anarchism, schools and movements in philosophy, art, the curative power of free discussion and polemics, results of conflict, union, deadlocks, compromises, feuds, the relations between public opinion and social tradition, why an equilibrium is not reached.

The Mental Recreations of the Mental Nurse, by R. JONES, M. D.
The Journal of Mental Science, July, 1908.

Dr. Jones pleads for periods of complete change of thought for mental nurses. There should be pensions and several weeks annually for vacation, with at least weekly outings through the year, because recently nursing has become far more exacting and involves more risks, troubles, and anxieties. The required training is longer, the degree of efficiency higher. There ought to be physical and also mental recreations, *e. g.*, golf and bridge. The nurse must keep up hope, for her buoyancy sustains the patient. Reading aloud is an important art, and there are nurses' reading circles, presses and a syllabus. Musical culture, interest in pictures upon the wall, healthful ideas generally, the cultivation of the kodak, and perhaps, especially, a thorough religious spirit. All these are important.

Manual of Psychiatry, by J. ROGUES DE FURSAC. Translated by A. J. Rosanoff. Second American from second French edition, revised and enlarged. John Wiley & Son, N. Y., 1908. 406 p.

This writer is very friendly to the new classification of mental diseases introduced by Kraepelin. Most cases indeed, when carefully examined, can be assigned to some of his groups, although of course there are difficulties. The first part treats of general psychiatry, with chapters on etiology, symptomatology, and the practice of psychiatry; while the second part deals with special psychiatry—deliria of infectious origin, psychoses of exhaustion, acute alcoholic intoxication, chronic alcoholism, chronic intoxication by the alkaloids, psychosis of auto-intoxication, acute and subacute thyrogenic psychosis, dementia præcox, chronic delusional insanity, general paresis, disorders due to organic cerebral affections, psychosis of involution, manic-depressive insanity of various types, reasoning insanity (Kraepelin's paranoia), and constitutional psychopathies or mental disorders of epilepsy and of hysteria, and arrests of mental development. The work certainly has the advantage of being brief and lucid.

The Borderland of Epilepsy, by WILLIAM R. GOWERS. P. Blakiston's Sons & Co., Philadelphia, 1907. 118 p. (Lectures on Diseases of the Nervous System, 3rd Series.)

The author has for years kept a special list of all his border-land cases that were near epilepsy but not of it, and he here presents a collective and more or less systematic study of these cases. The symptoms are fainting, syncope, vagal and vaso-vagal attacks, tetanoid spasms, sudden vertigo often involving loss of sight, consciousness, and sense of impulsion, attacks during sleep, pseud-aural border-line epilepsy. He gives a whole chapter to migraine—its alternations, premonitory symptoms, isolated, prodromic symptoms, during pain, somnolence, elaborate premonitory symptoms, night terrors, somnambulism, half-waking states and narcolepsy. These matters are discussed with the author's characteristic good sense and judgment.

Der Tod aus Altersschwäche, von HUGO RIBBERT. Friedrich Cohen, Bonn, 1908. 85 p.

Death from old age is a result of anatomic and functional changes in the composition of the body due especially to the high differentiation of the intercellular substances. It is a necessary result of chemico-physical properties that underlie life. Death from old age is a totally distinct thing from that by disease and is often unaffected by it, although sclerosis may accelerate it and other diseases may bring complications. Natural death is the death of the brain; a high degree of atrophy of the ganglion cells cannot be harmonized with life. Normally all men live approximately the same time, and the variations are what are to be accounted for.

Der Selbstmord als Spekulation des modernen Verbrechertums, von FRANZ CHYLE. Huber & Lahme, Vienna, 1908. 31 p.

The only cure the author sees against the growing tendency to suicide is the reform of family life, especially in the field of feeling and sentiment rather than of the understanding. There can be no doubt that in many respects civilized man is now beginning to degenerate, and that civilization is taking on certain morbid traits. It is fatal to expect too much of life, to be born rich or to be overloaded with culture too early. Suicides have often cursed their parents, holding them responsible for their deeds.

Untersuchungen zur Kenntnis der psychomotorischen Bewegungstörungen bei Geisteskranken, von KARL KLEIST. Werner Klinkhardt, Leipzig, 1908. 171 p.

This is a very valuable study based largely on one case, which seemed to pass through three akinetic stages, involving apraxia and mutism. The author thinks that psycho-motor disturbances are due to troubles of innervation, and is bold enough to do justice to this now too often discarded idea. The third part takes up the psychic conditions of psycho-motor disturbances in organic sensations, association, attention, etc. The writer is a disciple of Wernicke's and emphasizes his consciousness of corporeity, the substratum of which is a reflex system, including muscular and vestibular sensations, with their correlative motor reactions. Psychological investigation points to the same brain areas as does the analysis of motor disturbances. The frontal regions of the brain are focal for the body sense. The author holds to the dependence of psycho-motor symptoms upon effort, fatigue and other organic sensations, as well as feelings and attention.

Unverbesserliche Verbrecher und ihre Behandlung, von SHIGEMA OBA. Hermann Bahr, Berlin, 1908. 84 p.

The chief plea of this writer is that penalty should be proportional to the guilt and must be in the same field in which the crime was committed. Crimes involving pain should be punished with pain; simple theft by fines, according to the heinousness of the deed. He would also have what he calls preliminary punishments, and thus those under possible sentence should be held to a higher degree of accountability. Warnings and threats this writer thinks, therefore, are of great importance.

Sexuelle Ethik, von AUGUST FOREL. Ernst Reinhardt, Munich, n. d. 56 p.

This is a lecture originally given in Munich in 1906, which has reached a circulation of thirty thousand. In this last edition, the author has appended a number of concrete cases, from his experience, ethical-sexual conflicts, that have come to him. There are, for in-